22nd September 1955]

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that the premerger Pudukottah State Government had made the required survey and found the required raw-materials available for starting a cement factory? If so will the Hon. Minister pursue those steps and start a cement factory for the dry area of Pudukottah?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I have no such information with me. But Government do propose to appoint some additional staff. It will take up the survey of raw material resources, so that we can plan a programme of industrial development, both small-scale and large-scale in the Pudukottah State.

Dysentery in Thilannur desam in Chirakkal taluk

* 2378 Q.—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI (on behalf of Sri K. P. Gopalan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that dysentery has affected the people and especially children in the Thilannur desom in Chelore amsom in Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, what relief measures the Government have taken to prevent the spread of the disease?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : (*a*) & (*b*) No, Sir. One suspected case of dysentery, 8 mild attacks of diarrhoea and some attacks of measles occurred among children in the Thilanoor desom.

However, disinfection and chlorination of water sources, distribution of sulphaguanidine tablets and skim milk powder and anticipatory inoculation against cholera are the preventive measures taken in the village.

Hot wind in West Coast on 20th May 1955

* 2379 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a hot wind blew along the West Coast on 20th May 1955, which caused the withering of leaves of plants; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have investigated the matter?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes. Investigation had revealed that the withering of leaves of plants was due to the highly saline water of the sea which was blown by the unusually strong winds and sprayed on the leaves of trees facing the sea and near the sea shore.